

DETAILED ACTION

Reasons For Allowance

Claims 1-68 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claims as currently presented are allowed because no references, or reasonable combination thereof could be found, which disclose, suggest or teach, the recited features of Independent claims 1, 17, 32 & 45. The prior art fails to disclose or teach, selecting one of a plurality of player input displays, the one player input display corresponding to the one game related to the first game display, causing the second display unit to display the selected one of the player input displays; receiving player input data associated with the selected one of the player input displays and with the one game via the touch screen unit, after causing the second display unit to display the selected one of the player input displays, causing the second display unit to display the selected other of the player input displays, as required by the independent claims 1, 17, 32 & 45.

Wells et al. (US Patent Publication 2003/0064784) discloses a gaming machine with a multiple display unit, wherein the first display unit displays the game play and the second display unit displays plurality of player input for the game play. However, considering the affidavit 37 C.F.R 1.131 filed by the applicant which provides a notebook disclosing the invention in 1999, and an invoice from Miller Dial for purchase of the parts in 2001 to construct the device, the examiner assumes that the applicant was working on the invention during the two years gap. Therefore based on the

applicant's assertion, the reference is overcome. Thus claims 1-68 are allowed over Wells et al.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUNIT PANDYA whose telephone number is (571)272-2823. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 8 - 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dmitry Suhol can be reached on 571-272-4430. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JAMES S. MCCLELLAN/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3714

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